

Craig S. Zanni  
December 17, 2021

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON  
EUGENE DIVISION

NICHOLAS JAMES MCGUFFIN, as an	)	
individual and as guardian ad	)	
litem, on behalf of S.M., a	)	Civil No.
minor,	)	6:20-cv-01163-MK
	)	
Plaintiffs,	)	VIDEOCONFERENCE
	)	DEPOSITION
v.	)	
	)	
MARK DANNELS, PAT DOWNING,	)	
SUSAN HORMANN, MARY KRINGS,	)	
KRIS KARCHER, SHELLY MCINNES,	)	
RAYMOND MCNEELY, KIP OSWALD,	)	
MICHAEL REAVES, JOHN RIDDLE,	)	
SEAN SANBORN, ERIC	)	
SCHWENNINGER, RICHARD WALTER,	)	
CHRIS WEBLEY, ANTHONY WETMORE,	)	
KATHY WILCOX, CRAIG ZANNI,	)	
DAVID ZAVALA, ESTATE OF DAVE	)	
HALL, VIDOCQ SOCIETY, CITY OF	)	
COQUILLE, CITY OF COOS BAY,	)	
COOS COUNTY, and OREGON STATE	)	
POLICE,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	
	)	

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DEPOSITION UPON ORAL EXAMINATION  
OF CRAIG S. ZANNI

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 BE IT REMEMBERED THAT, pursuant to the Oregon Rules of 2 Civil Procedure, the deposition of CRAIG S. ZANNI, an 3 adverse-party witness, was taken remotely via videoconference 4 on behalf of the Plaintiffs, before JEAN M. KOSTNER, a 5 Certified Court Reporter for Oregon, on Friday, the 17th day of 6 December, 2021, at the hour of 9:00 a.m., in the State of 7 Oregon. 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 ALSO PRESENT: 2 Nick McGuffin 3 4 REPORTED BY: 5 Jean M. Kostner, CSR #90-0051 6 Subcontractor for: 7 US LEGAL SUPPORT 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 APPEARANCES 2 3 ON BEHALF OF THE PLAINTIFFS: 4 Andrew C. Lauersdorf, OSB #980739 5 Janis C. Puracal, OSB #132288 6 MALONEY LAUERSDORF, REINER, PC 7 1111 East Burnside Street, Suite 300 8 Portland, Oregon 97214 9 (503) 245-1518 10 acl@mlrlegalteam.com 11 jcp@mlrlegalteam.com 12 13 ON BEHALF OF THE DEFENDANTS: 14 Sarah R. Henderson 15 LAW OFFICE OF ROBERT E. FRANZ, JR. 16 Post Office Box 62 17 Springfield, Oregon 97477 18 (541) 741-8220 19 shenderson@franzlaw.comcastbiz.net 20 (Representing City of Coquille, City of Coos Bay, 21 Coos County, Craig Zanni, Chris Webley, Eric 22 Schwenninger, Sean Sanborn, Ray McNeely, Kris 23 Karcher, Pat Downing, Mark Dannels, Kip Oswald, 24 Michael Reaves, David Zavala, Anthony Wetmore, 25 Shelly D. McInnes)</p> <p>Todd Marshall Jesse B. Davis OREGON DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 100 Southwest Market Street Portland, Oregon 97201 (503) 947-4700 todd.marshall@doj.state.or.us jesse.b.davis@doj.state.or.us (Representing Oregon State Police, John Riddle, Susan Hormann, Mary Krings, Kathy Wilcox) Karin L. Schaffer WOOD SMITH HENNING &amp; BERMAN LLP 12755 Southwest 69th Avenue, Suite 100 Portland, Oregon 97223 (971) 256-4023 kschaffer@wshblaw.com (Representing Vidocq Society and Richard Walter)</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 5</p> <p>1 INDEX OF TESTIMONY 2 3 WITNESS PAGE 4 CRAIG S. ZANNI 5 Examination by Mr. Lauersdorf . . . . . 8 6 Examination by Ms. Schaffer . . . . . 242 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p> <p>PAGE LINE</p> <p>Objections marked for record 209 21 210 12</p> <p>REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION</p> <p>Information Requested by Mr. Lauersdorf: PAGE LINE</p> <p>Copies of the policies and procedures, including historical copies 42 16</p>

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INDEX OF EXHIBITS			Page 6	CRAIG S. ZANNI,			Page 8
1	DEPOSITION			1	called as a witness on behalf of the Plaintiffs, having been		
2	EXHIBIT NO.	DESCRIPTION	IDENTIFIED	2	first duly sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and		
3	Exhibit 1	Brady List	209	3	nothing but the truth, was examined and testified as follows:		
4	Exhibit 2	Coos County Sheriff's Office Incident Narrative/File No. 20-10627 (17 pages)	79	4	THE WITNESS: I do.		
5	Exhibit 3	Coos County Sheriff's Office Incident Narrative/File No. 20-10627B (15 pages)	107	5	EXAMINATION		
6	Exhibit 4	OSP Forensic Lab Supplemental Report (10 pages)	127	6	BY MR. LAUERSDORF:		
7	Exhibit 5	Evidence Log, Coquille Police Department	128	7	Q. Okay. Sheriff Zanni, my name is Andrew Lauersdorf.		
8	Exhibit 6	Coquille Police Department Property Request	130	8	You and I have never met before. Is that correct?		
9	Exhibit 8	Coos County Sheriff's Office Incident Narrative/File No. 20-10627C (8 pages)	136	9	A. As far as I know, that's correct.		
10	Exhibit 10	Coos County Sheriff's Office Incident Narrative/File No. 20-10627ss (5 pages)	143	10	Q. Okay. And you understand that I'm an attorney.		
11	Exhibit 11	Coos County Sheriff's Office Incident Narrative/File No. 20-10627s (8 pages)	146	11	Right?		
12	Exhibit 12	Handwritten Poem (5 pages)	154	12	A. Yes.		
13	Exhibit 13	H.I.T. Team Meeting Notes (38 pages)	155	13	Q. And you understand that I represent the plaintiffs		
14	Exhibit 14	Police Report (Backman)	175	14	in this matter, Mr. McGuffin and his daughter?		
15	Exhibit 15	Police Report (Jenkins)	189	15	A. Yes.		
16	Exhibit 16	Letter from Bentley Investigations to Detective Sergeant Craig Zanni, 06/11/01	194	16	Q. Okay. And this is a lawsuit involving some claims		
17	Exhibit 17	Information Alert	198	17	that Mr. McGuffin has filed against a number of defendants,		
18	Exhibit 18	OSP Incident Report (7 pages)	203	18	including yourself. Is that right?		
19				19	A. Yes.		
20				20	Q. Can you please state your name as given at birth.		
21				21	A. Craig Steven Zanni.		
22				22	Q. Steven with a V or with a P-H?		
23				23	A. V.		
24				24	Q. And what's your place and date of birth?		
25				25			

			Page 7				Page 9
1	Exhibit 20	Synopsis of Vidocq Society Cases (2 pages)	219	1	A. California, Mount Shasta, 1951.		
2	Exhibit 21	Dannels' Press Conference (5 pages)	232	2	Q. And who is your current employer?		
3	Exhibit 28	Control Holds - Bent Arm Takedown	240	3	A. The citizens of Coos County.		
4				4	Q. Okay. And you've been working for the Coos County		
5				5	Sheriff's Office for quite a while. Right?		
6				6	A. Yep.		
7				7	Q. Since -- when did you start with the sheriff's		
8				8	office?		
9				9	A. Originally, I started here on February 15th, 1977.		
10				10	Q. Okay. And then were you elected to the office of		
11				11	sheriff in 2011?		
12				12	A. Yes.		
13				13	Q. Okay. So your current title is sheriff. Is that		
14				14	right?		
15				15	A. Correct.		
16				16	Q. What's your DPSST number?		
17				17	A. 8614. But they add a 0 in front of it because it		
18				18	won't enter into the computer without the 0.		
19				19	Q. Okay. You're here today to be deposed. Do you		
20				20	understand that?		
21				21	A. Yes.		
22				22	Q. This is the time and place previously agreed upon.		
23				23	It's Friday, December 17th, 2021, and it's approximately		
24				24	9:05 a.m. Do you agree with that?		
25				25	A. Yes.		

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 134</p> <p>1 A. Not that I'm aware of.</p> <p>2 MR. LAUERSDORF: All right. It looks like it's</p> <p>3 about 12:05. I know I took you a little bit past the 90-minute</p> <p>4 mark there. People are probably getting hungry and tired a</p> <p>5 little bit, and we could use a little bit of a break before</p> <p>6 getting into the afternoon session.</p> <p>7 My proposal would be that we break for 30 minutes</p> <p>8 for lunch. I'm open to suggestions, if people feel like more</p> <p>9 time is needed, but that would be my thought. How do people</p> <p>10 feel?</p> <p>11 MS. HENDERSON: We're probably going to have to go</p> <p>12 offsite, and that's been our plan, to get lunch. Not too far</p> <p>13 away, though. So we're going to need a little bit more time</p> <p>14 than that.</p> <p>15 How much time, since you're familiar with the</p> <p>16 place?</p> <p>17 THE WITNESS: Probably an hour, hour and 15</p> <p>18 minutes, probably.</p> <p>19 MS. HENDERSON: We can make it happen in an hour.</p> <p>20 And we don't have any time restrictions as far as our location</p> <p>21 here this evening, so is it okay with everyone that we take an</p> <p>22 hour?</p> <p>23 MR. LAUERSDORF: Okay. No. Why don't we take --</p> <p>24 why don't we reconvene at 12:15. Is that okay?</p> <p>25 THE WITNESS: That will work.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 136</p> <p>1 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Do you recall Mr. Frasier issuing a press</p> <p>3 release on the discovery of the body?</p> <p>4 A. Not independently. I'm sure he probably did, but I</p> <p>5 don't recall it.</p> <p>6 Q. Okay. And you don't recall having any discussions</p> <p>7 with him about that?</p> <p>8 A. No.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. Did the location of the body leak before the</p> <p>10 decision was made to make it public?</p> <p>11 A. I don't know.</p> <p>12 Q. Okay. Do you know who Meagan Smith is?</p> <p>13 A. I recognize the name, but I don't know why.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. Well, let me see if I can show you ... So</p> <p>15 I'm going to share my screen with you again here. Do you see</p> <p>16 the screen in front of you, what's -- what will be marked</p> <p>17 Exhibit 8?</p> <p>18 A. Okay. It has "52" up in the right-hand corner?</p> <p>19 Q. Yeah. Do you recognize it at all?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. That's a report -- it looks like it was authored by</p> <p>22 you. It's got a date/time printed of September 12, 2000, and</p> <p>23 it looks like you were reporting on events that occurred on</p> <p>24 August 29th, 2000. Does that sound right?</p> <p>25 A. Yes.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 135</p> <p>1 MR. LAUERSDORF: I'm sorry. 1:15.</p> <p>2 MS. HENDERSON: Yes. Sounds good.</p> <p>3 MR. LAUERSDORF: Okay. Now we'll go off the</p> <p>4 record.</p> <p>5 (Lunch recess taken from 12:06 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.)</p> <p>6 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>7 Q. Welcome back, Sheriff Zanni -- Zanni. Sorry.</p> <p>8 A. It doesn't matter. Just don't call me late for</p> <p>9 meals.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. I'm going to share -- go back and share my</p> <p>11 screen with you again, and we're going to go back to Exhibit 5</p> <p>12 for just a minute there. Can you see Exhibit 5 in front of you</p> <p>13 now?</p> <p>14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Do you know or have you been made aware of</p> <p>16 the reason why the videotape of the crime scene, reflected as</p> <p>17 Evidence Number 224 on Exhibit 5, was not produced to</p> <p>18 Mr. McGuffin for use as evidence in his criminal trial?</p> <p>19 A. No.</p> <p>20 Q. When -- when did the information about the location</p> <p>21 of the body become public knowledge? When was that made</p> <p>22 public?</p> <p>23 A. That, I couldn't tell you.</p> <p>24 Q. Oh, okay. Do you know who made the decision to</p> <p>25 disclose the location of the body?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 137</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. I'm going to take you to page 8 of that</p> <p>2 document. And up here -- and if want to go back and read it,</p> <p>3 you certainly can. I can scroll back for you. I'll represent</p> <p>4 to you that what you're recording on here is a conversation</p> <p>5 that you had with Leah Freeman's mother, Corliss Freeman. And</p> <p>6 here, in the second paragraph, she indicates -- "Corliss</p> <p>7 indicated that the cross at Lee Valley was not put up by the</p> <p>8 family but by Meagan Smith, who was a friend of her</p> <p>9 daughter's."</p> <p>10 A. Okay.</p> <p>11 Q. What cross were you talking about there?</p> <p>12 A. We had been informed that somebody had put up some</p> <p>13 kind of a memorial cross thing.</p> <p>14 Q. Did you go out and look at it?</p> <p>15 A. I believe I did. I don't recall independently that</p> <p>16 I did, though.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. Do you recall taking any photos of it?</p> <p>18 A. I don't believe I did, no.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. Did you ever -- do you recall ever seeing</p> <p>20 any photos of the cross in the criminal file?</p> <p>21 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. Who brought up the cross in your</p> <p>23 conversation with Ms. Freeman here?</p> <p>24 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Do you recall specifically what was said</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 138</p> <p>1 other than what's in your report?</p> <p>2 A. No.</p> <p>3 Q. Did you, at any time, interview Meagan Smith about</p> <p>4 the cross?</p> <p>5 A. Don't recall. If I did, it should be in the</p> <p>6 report.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. Do you have any idea how Meagan Smith knew</p> <p>8 where the loca- -- where the -- where Leah's remains were</p> <p>9 found?</p> <p>10 A. No.</p> <p>11 Q. Did you hear about -- or, I guess, did you</p> <p>12 interview anyone else who had been going out to the location in</p> <p>13 August of 2000, the location where the remains were found?</p> <p>14 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. Do you recall doing any investigation into</p> <p>16 people going out there in August of 2000?</p> <p>17 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. In January 2010, Officer Schwenninger and</p> <p>19 McNeely from Coquille PD reported that Scott Hamilton was</p> <p>20 telling them that Mr. McGuffin had taken him out to the</p> <p>21 location where the body had been retrieved sometime after it</p> <p>22 was retrieved. Do you remember reading that report or learning</p> <p>23 of that report at some point?</p> <p>24 A. I remember hearing about the information. I don't</p> <p>25 recall reading the report, no.</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 140</p> <p>1 A. I don't know. You would have to ask someone else.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Who would I ask?</p> <p>3 A. Anybody. I don't know. I reported what</p> <p>4 information I got.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. But -- okay. And that wasn't information</p> <p>6 that you -- that you got, the information about Mr. Hamilton</p> <p>7 and Mr. McGuffin?</p> <p>8 A. I don't understand the question.</p> <p>9 Q. Well, you said, "You would have to ask somebody</p> <p>10 else. I reported the information I got." And so I'm just</p> <p>11 wondering if the information about Mr. Hamilton telling this</p> <p>12 story to police was information you got or not.</p> <p>13 MS. HENDERSON: I'll object to the form of the</p> <p>14 question as vague. I mean, when you say "got," at any point in</p> <p>15 the --</p> <p>16 MR. LAUERSDORF: Yeah.</p> <p>17 MS. HENDERSON: -- last 20 years? I mean,</p> <p>18 that's ...</p> <p>19 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>20 Q. At any point while the investigation was pending up</p> <p>21 until the time Mr. McGuffin was indicted.</p> <p>22 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>23 Q. Did you do any investigation to narrow down the</p> <p>24 timing of Mr. McGuffin's visit with Mr. Hamilton?</p> <p>25 A. I -- I don't -- I don't recall. If I did, it would</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 139</p> <p>1 Q. Okay. Do you have any recollection or</p> <p>2 understanding of when Hamilton said he went out there with</p> <p>3 Mr. McGuffin?</p> <p>4 A. Not off the top of my head, no.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. As far as Mr. Hamilton telling police that</p> <p>6 he had been out there with Mr. McGuffin, when did you learn of</p> <p>7 that information?</p> <p>8 A. I -- I can't recall.</p> <p>9 Q. And was that part -- do you know if you learned it</p> <p>10 as part of a briefing --</p> <p>11 A. Not that --</p> <p>12 Q. -- on the case?</p> <p>13 A. I don't recall at all.</p> <p>14 Q. Okay. And why would that -- why would</p> <p>15 Mr. Hamilton's report have been significant to the Freeman</p> <p>16 investigation?</p> <p>17 A. Well, it was information that -- regarding what was</p> <p>18 going on.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. Did it have any tendency to implicate</p> <p>20 Mr. McGuffin or anyone else in Ms. Freeman's death?</p> <p>21 A. I would assume that would -- that's what it would</p> <p>22 indicate.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. And so what about Meagan Smith? Did her</p> <p>24 being out there and putting a cross out there implicate her at</p> <p>25 all?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 141</p> <p>1 be in the reports.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you recall, when you first were assigned to the</p> <p>3 case back on July 5th, 2000, interviewing Bill Middleton?</p> <p>4 A. I believe I spoke to Mr. Middleton, yes.</p> <p>5 Q. And do you recall Mr. Middleton telling you that he</p> <p>6 thought that Ms. Freeman may have been pregnant at the time of</p> <p>7 her disappearance?</p> <p>8 A. I really don't recall the details of that</p> <p>9 conversation.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay.</p> <p>11 A. He may have told me that, but I don't recall it</p> <p>12 independently.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you do anything to investigate whether or not</p> <p>14 Ms. Freeman was pregnant at the time of her disappearance?</p> <p>15 A. Personally, no, but I believe some investigation</p> <p>16 was done on that.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. And you know from the autopsy report that</p> <p>18 there was -- that she wasn't pregnant at the time of her</p> <p>19 disappearance. Right?</p> <p>20 MS. HENDERSON: I object to the form of the</p> <p>21 question as assuming facts.</p> <p>22 You can answer.</p> <p>23 A. That's my understanding.</p> <p>24 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>25 Q. Oh, I'm sorry. Did you read the autopsy report at</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 210</p> <p>1 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>2 Q. Well, Kip Oswald would have been an employee of the</p> <p>3 Coos County Sheriff's Office while you were there. Correct?</p> <p>4 A. Yes.</p> <p>5 Q. And would he have been an employee of the Coos</p> <p>6 County Sheriff's Office while you were the sheriff?</p> <p>7 A. Based on when he was at the sheriff's office?</p> <p>8 Q. Yes.</p> <p>9 A. Yes.</p> <p>10 Q. So do you know why he would be listed on District</p> <p>11 Attorney Frasier's Brady list for Coos County?</p> <p>12 MS. HENDERSON: Same objection, and I'm going to</p> <p>13 instruct my client not to answer. Again, it's not</p> <p>14 authenticated. We have no idea what this document is. It's</p> <p>15 also listed as confidential, I believe, somewhere.</p> <p>16 If you want to ask him about his personal</p> <p>17 knowledge, that's fine, but we're not going to go any further</p> <p>18 with this exhibit.</p> <p>19 MR. LAUERSDORF: Ms. Kostner, mark that for the</p> <p>20 record, please.</p> <p>21 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>22 Q. My understanding, for the record, is that your</p> <p>23 attorney has instructed you not to answer and that you are</p> <p>24 refusing to answer any further questions that I may ask with</p> <p>25 regard to Exhibit 1 or the information contained therein. Is</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 212</p> <p>1 for it as to when he was involved with the Freeman</p> <p>2 investigation, within 10 years of that?</p> <p>3 MR. LAUERSDORF: No. We can -- we can say any</p> <p>4 dates. Deputy Oswald is a party in this matter. He's a party</p> <p>5 defendant. He's going to be deposed. He's going to presumably</p> <p>6 take the stand at trial, and I have a right to know if Sheriff</p> <p>7 Zanni has any information, personal information, that reflects</p> <p>8 on Deputy Oswald's reputation for truth.</p> <p>9 MS. HENDERSON: I mean, if we want to have a debate</p> <p>10 about what character evidence is or is not admissible, I feel</p> <p>11 like this is not the forum for it. So, you know, I --</p> <p>12 MR. LAUERSDORF: So are you instructing him not to</p> <p>13 answer?</p> <p>14 MS. HENDERSON: I think what we should do now is go</p> <p>15 ahead and rephrase your question. If I have an objection, I'll</p> <p>16 register it, and we'll go from there.</p> <p>17 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>18 Q. Are you aware of any conduct of Deputy Oswald that</p> <p>19 would reflect on his propensity for truth?</p> <p>20 MS. HENDERSON: I'll just simply object to the form</p> <p>21 of the question as maybe potentially involving speculation,</p> <p>22 lack of foundation.</p> <p>23 If you know, you can answer.</p> <p>24 A. I know what I've heard occurred.</p> <p>25 ///</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 211</p> <p>1 that correct?</p> <p>2 A. Yes.</p> <p>3 Q. Okay. Is Deputy Oswald still employed by the Coos</p> <p>4 County Sheriff's Office?</p> <p>5 A. No.</p> <p>6 Q. Why not?</p> <p>7 A. He resigned and went to work for the North Bend</p> <p>8 Police Department.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. Was he asked to resign?</p> <p>10 A. Not that I know of.</p> <p>11 Q. Were you ever involved in any disciplinary</p> <p>12 investigations related to Deputy Oswald?</p> <p>13 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>14 Q. Were you ever -- are you aware of any acts or</p> <p>15 conduct of Deputy Oswald that would reflect on his veracity?</p> <p>16 MS. HENDERSON: I'll object to the question as</p> <p>17 vague, ultra broad. If you want to ask something about the</p> <p>18 admissibility of impeachment evidence, felony convictions,</p> <p>19 something like that within the last 10 years --</p> <p>20 MR. LAUERSDORF: Yeah, I'm asking about prior bad</p> <p>21 acts.</p> <p>22 MS. HENDERSON: Okay. So what dates are we dealing</p> <p>23 with here?</p> <p>24 MR. LAUERSDORF: Any dates.</p> <p>25 MS. HENDERSON: I mean, can you lay some foundation</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 213</p> <p>1 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>2 Q. What have you heard?</p> <p>3 MS. HENDERSON: Same objection.</p> <p>4 A. That he was laid off from North Bend because of an</p> <p>5 incident that I do not know the details of, but I had just</p> <p>6 heard the rumors that float along in the police community about</p> <p>7 why that occurred.</p> <p>8 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. So do you know if he's still a police</p> <p>10 officer?</p> <p>11 A. No. He has retired.</p> <p>12 Q. Retired, or was his DPSST certification revoked?</p> <p>13 A. I don't believe it was revoked. I believe he's</p> <p>14 retired, to the best of my knowledge.</p> <p>15 Q. What was the status of the Freeman investigation</p> <p>16 when you retired from Coos County Sheriff's Office in February</p> <p>17 2004?</p> <p>18 A. Ending. Unresolved at that time. Investigation</p> <p>19 continuing.</p> <p>20 Q. Had it slowed at that point?</p> <p>21 A. Pardon?</p> <p>22 Q. Had it slowed at that point? Had the pace of the</p> <p>23 investigation slowed at that point?</p> <p>24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Why had it slowed at that point?</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">Page 214</p> <p>1 A. Most of the leads that had been provided had been</p> <p>2 tracked down, to my knowledge.</p> <p>3 Q. Was there an open grand jury at that point?</p> <p>4 A. I'm not -- I don't know for sure. I don't recall.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you ask Mr. Frasier or anyone else at the Coos</p> <p>6 County District Attorney's Office to present the case to grand</p> <p>7 jury at any time before your retirement in February 2004?</p> <p>8 A. Not that I'm aware of.</p> <p>9 Q. Did you ask Mr. Frasier to present the case to</p> <p>10 grand jury at any time during your service as director from</p> <p>11 2004 to April of 2007?</p> <p>12 A. Not that I'm aware of.</p> <p>13 Q. Did you recommend or suggest to anyone at any time</p> <p>14 between 2000 and 2007 that the case be submitted to the Coos</p> <p>15 County District Attorney's Office for presentation to grand</p> <p>16 jury?</p> <p>17 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>18 Q. Why not?</p> <p>19 A. I didn't believe there was enough information at</p> <p>20 that time to bring it to the district attorney.</p> <p>21 Q. What information did you think was still lacking?</p> <p>22 MS. HENDERSON: Object to form. Calls for</p> <p>23 speculation.</p> <p>24 You can answer.</p> <p>25 A. Lots of information. DNA information,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 216</p> <p>1 part of looking at that.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you recall what month that occurred in?</p> <p>3 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>4 Q. Do you recall what year?</p> <p>5 A. No, I don't. I was retired. I didn't even wear a</p> <p>6 watch then.</p> <p>7 Q. Do you recall how long you had been retired at that</p> <p>8 point?</p> <p>9 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. And he asked you to sit in on something.</p> <p>11 What did he ask you to sit in on? Some kind of meeting or ...</p> <p>12 A. A meeting. They were going to review the Leah</p> <p>13 Freeman case and see if there's things that could be done.</p> <p>14 Q. When he asked you about this, did he talk about a</p> <p>15 single meeting, or was he -- did he mention participation with</p> <p>16 a team of individuals?</p> <p>17 A. I don't think he mentioned it either way. I think</p> <p>18 it was just would I be willing to sit in at that point, if I</p> <p>19 would be willing to participate.</p> <p>20 Q. And had you conducted any investigation into Leah</p> <p>21 Freeman's murder between the time you retired in 2004 and when</p> <p>22 Mr. Dannels asked you to get involved again?</p> <p>23 A. No. Not that I recall.</p> <p>24 Q. So at the time that you were director of the</p> <p>25 interagency task force between 2004 and 2007, did you have</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 215</p> <p>1 documentation of all of the information we had. From my</p> <p>2 position, working on the -- not being the case officer directly</p> <p>3 involved with Coquille Police Department, I don't know all of</p> <p>4 the information they had, but I wasn't aware of enough being</p> <p>5 put together to present to the grand jury.</p> <p>6 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>7 Q. At some point Chief Reaves resigned and was</p> <p>8 replaced by Chief Dannels. Is that correct?</p> <p>9 A. It's my understanding, yes.</p> <p>10 Q. Do you know the reasons for Chief Reaves</p> <p>11 resignation?</p> <p>12 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. At some point after your retirement you were</p> <p>14 asked to get involved in the Freeman investigation again. Is</p> <p>15 that correct?</p> <p>16 A. I was asked if I would sit in on the -- on a review</p> <p>17 of the case, yes.</p> <p>18 Q. And who asked you to do that?</p> <p>19 A. Chief Dannels.</p> <p>20 Q. And what specifically did he ask you?</p> <p>21 A. I don't remember the date. He pulled up one day in</p> <p>22 front of my house, asked if he could speak with me, and I had</p> <p>23 not met him before that. He indicated that he was going to --</p> <p>24 wanting to relook at the Freeman case and if I would be willing</p> <p>25 to sit in and provide information that I was aware of and be</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 217</p> <p>1 any -- were you participating in the Freeman investigation at</p> <p>2 all at that point?</p> <p>3 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>4 Q. Had you developed any new leads during the time</p> <p>5 between your retirement and when Chief Dannels asked you to get</p> <p>6 involved again?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 MR. DAVIS: Counsel, can you unshare your screen so</p> <p>9 that you can return to a viewable size?</p> <p>10 MR. LAUERSDORF: Sure. Sorry.</p> <p>11 MR. DAVIS: Thank you.</p> <p>12 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. So were you aware or did Chief Dannels</p> <p>14 mention any new evidence being uncovered during the time that</p> <p>15 you were retired?</p> <p>16 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>17 Q. Okay. And so after Chief Dannels asked you to get</p> <p>18 involved, what did you say?</p> <p>19 A. That, sure, I'd be willing to come and sit in.</p> <p>20 Q. Okay. And then what did you do to bring yourself</p> <p>21 back up to speed before getting involved with the -- with Chief</p> <p>22 Dannels?</p> <p>23 A. I shaved. No. Nothing really. I knew what I knew</p> <p>24 or could remember, and at that point I wasn't asked to review</p> <p>25 anything or prepare anything. I was simply asked to attend a</p>



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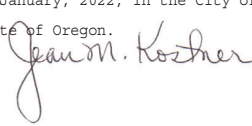
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 218</p> <p>1 meeting, which I did.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. Did you go back and review any of your old</p> <p>3 reports?</p> <p>4 A. No.</p> <p>5 Q. Did you, by any chance, review any of the OSP lab</p> <p>6 reports?</p> <p>7 A. No.</p> <p>8 Q. Did you -- were you aware of the Chorley laboratory</p> <p>9 report from England at any time?</p> <p>10 A. Later on, yes, I had heard about it.</p> <p>11 Q. Did you review it at all at any point?</p> <p>12 A. No.</p> <p>13 Q. Do you recall going back and reviewing anything</p> <p>14 before you met with Chief Dannels' team for the first time?</p> <p>15 A. No.</p> <p>16 Q. When you rejoined the investigation at Chief</p> <p>17 Dannels' request, did Chief Dannels have a theory developed</p> <p>18 about Ms. Freeman's murder?</p> <p>19 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>20 Q. Did he mention any suspects at that time?</p> <p>21 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>22 Q. Do you remember traveling to Pennsylvania to meet</p> <p>23 with some folks from the Vidocq Society?</p> <p>24 A. Yes. I was invited along.</p> <p>25 Q. How did that come about?</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 220</p> <p>1 at all? Have you ever seen that document before?</p> <p>2 A. Not that I recall, no.</p> <p>3 Q. That document was produced in discovery by the</p> <p>4 Vidocq defendants in this matter. It's got a Bates label at</p> <p>5 the bottom VIDOCQ_000009. It's titled "Synopsis of Vidocq</p> <p>6 Society Cases, 207. The Murder of Leah Freeman, 2000."</p> <p>7 Do you see that?</p> <p>8 A. Yes.</p> <p>9 Q. In there the author of the report is reporting that</p> <p>10 the District Attorney Paul Frasier; Chief Dannels; Lisa McOwen,</p> <p>11 from DOJ; and yourself, Craig Zanni, County Investigator, came</p> <p>12 out and presented the Freeman case to the Vidocq Society on</p> <p>13 January 21st, 2010. Does that sound right?</p> <p>14 A. That sounds right.</p> <p>15 Q. Okay. And what specifically did you present to the</p> <p>16 Vidocq folks?</p> <p>17 A. Primarily, I just presented the information that</p> <p>18 we've spoken about and answered questions.</p> <p>19 Q. Okay. What information did you -- was it a</p> <p>20 presentation, or was it just a straight, sit-down</p> <p>21 question-and-answer?</p> <p>22 A. I think the chief talked a little bit, and then I</p> <p>23 added a few things, like, you know, the car had been searched,</p> <p>24 and we had done follow-up and chased out leads and tracked down</p> <p>25 other people who had moved from the area during that time. And</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 219</p> <p>1 A. Um ... I'm not really sure. I just -- Chief</p> <p>2 Dannels contacted me and asked if I would be interested in</p> <p>3 going back there with them. They were going to meet with a</p> <p>4 bunch of people who were retired agents, forensic</p> <p>5 psychologists, crime lab people that would provide a review of</p> <p>6 the case, and if I would be interested in going, if they had</p> <p>7 questions.</p> <p>8 Q. Did he say why he wanted you to go?</p> <p>9 A. Not particularly, no.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. And who paid for your travel and expenses</p> <p>11 for that trip?</p> <p>12 A. The City of Coquille, I believe.</p> <p>13 Q. And who went with you?</p> <p>14 A. Um ... I remember Chief Dannels, and I'm trying to</p> <p>15 remember who else went. I think -- I don't remember if</p> <p>16 DA Frasier went and -- I don't recall who else. I think there</p> <p>17 were four of us, but I don't recall who all the four were.</p> <p>18 MS. HENDERSON: Sorry to interrupt. I think</p> <p>19 somebody is unmuted who is not speaking. We have an echo on</p> <p>20 our end.</p> <p>21 MR. LAUERSDORF: Okay. It looks like it's</p> <p>22 straightened out.</p> <p>23 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>24 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you what's been marked or</p> <p>25 will be marked as Exhibit 20. Do you happen to recognize that</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 221</p> <p>1 that was about it.</p> <p>2 Q. And what was Lisa McOwen's role in that</p> <p>3 presentation?</p> <p>4 A. I -- if I recall correctly, she had been working on</p> <p>5 trying to develop a timeline or something. I don't -- I don't</p> <p>6 recall specifically.</p> <p>7 Q. And was the timeline discussed during the meeting</p> <p>8 with Vidocq?</p> <p>9 A. I believe so, but I don't recall specifically.</p> <p>10 Q. And what questions were you asked by the folks at</p> <p>11 Vidocq?</p> <p>12 A. I do not recall.</p> <p>13 Q. Do you remember the names of any specific Vidocq</p> <p>14 members that you met with?</p> <p>15 A. No, other than the one you had mentioned earlier</p> <p>16 today. And I don't even remember his name now. I'm sorry.</p> <p>17 Q. Richard Walter?</p> <p>18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you recall any of the purported specializations</p> <p>20 of any of the folks that you had met with from Vidocq?</p> <p>21 A. No, I don't recall those specifically.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. The author of this document is reporting</p> <p>23 that the chief of police appeared to have hindered the</p> <p>24 investigation. What did you or any of the people you were with</p> <p>25 tell the Vidocq Society about the chief of police hindering the</p>



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<p>1 MR. LAUERSDORF: Yes.</p> <p>2 (Discussion off the record.)</p> <p>3 BY MR. LAUERSDORF:</p> <p>4 Q. Was Kris Karcher at that dinner?</p> <p>5 A. I do not recall.</p> <p>6 Q. How about Chris Webley?</p> <p>7 A. I don't know.</p> <p>8 Q. How about Officer McNeely, Junior?</p> <p>9 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>10 Q. Do you know who the case officer was on the Freeman</p> <p>11 investigation at that time?</p> <p>12 A. I believe it was Ray McNeely, Junior.</p> <p>13 Q. But you don't recall whether he was at the dinner</p> <p>14 or not?</p> <p>15 A. No, I don't.</p> <p>16 Q. What was discussed at the dinner with Mr. Walter?</p> <p>17 A. Well, a myriad of subjects, but I was sitting at a</p> <p>18 different part of the table, and I was with my wife, and my</p> <p>19 wife and I are very close, so they -- I listened, and they</p> <p>20 discussed, and that was about it.</p> <p>21 Q. Was the Freeman investigation discussed at that</p> <p>22 dinner?</p> <p>23 A. I'm certain that it was, but I don't recall the</p> <p>24 details of that.</p> <p>25 Q. Okay. Was the strategy for taking the case to</p>	<p>1 A. Mm-hm.</p> <p>2 Q. About reopening the investigation. Were you at</p> <p>3 that press conference?</p> <p>4 A. I believe so, no.</p> <p>5 Q. Okay. Did you -- have you ever seen a press</p> <p>6 release from that press conference or ever talk to anybody</p> <p>7 about it?</p> <p>8 A. I heard about it, but, no, I didn't talk to anybody</p> <p>9 about it, but I don't believe I've ever seen any press release.</p> <p>10 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you what's been marked as</p> <p>11 Exhibit 21. And I'll kind of go slow here.</p> <p>12 This is the -- the print copy of Dannels' press</p> <p>13 release on January 25th, 2010. Now, if I understand correctly</p> <p>14 from that Vidocq report, this would have been four days after</p> <p>15 you came back from your meeting with Vidocq. Is that right?</p> <p>16 A. Probably, from the dates. I don't recall</p> <p>17 independently.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. Do you recall if the reopening-the-case</p> <p>19 press release happened pretty quickly after the Vidocq meeting?</p> <p>20 A. I do not because I wasn't paying much attention to</p> <p>21 it.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. So Chief Dannels says here 15 months ago he</p> <p>23 and Paul Frasier joined forces to revitalize the investigation.</p> <p>24 Over the past 15 months they have "assembled a cold case team</p> <p>25 made up of investigators that had originally been involved with</p>
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<p>1 grand jury discussed at that dinner?</p> <p>2 A. I believe it probably was, but I don't recall the</p> <p>3 details of that.</p> <p>4 Q. Was the strategy for taking the case to grand jury</p> <p>5 discussed at the meeting with Vidocq in Pennsylvania?</p> <p>6 A. I don't recall.</p> <p>7 Q. Take any notes of that meeting?</p> <p>8 A. No, I did not.</p> <p>9 Q. Okay. So, let's see. You were asked to have</p> <p>10 dinner and meet with Mr. Walter. When Mr. Walter was out here,</p> <p>11 did you have any meetings with him besides the dinner?</p> <p>12 A. No, I did not.</p> <p>13 Q. Okay. And then you were asked about the best way</p> <p>14 to present the case to grand jury and provided your advice to</p> <p>15 Mr. Frasier. Was there anything --</p> <p>16 A. Well, I don't know that he asked me. I think it</p> <p>17 was just a discussion that came up.</p> <p>18 Q. Okay. Was there anything else you were asked to do</p> <p>19 with regard to the Freeman investigation after your meeting</p> <p>20 with Vidocq?</p> <p>21 A. Not that I recall.</p> <p>22 Q. Okay. And then so at some point -- oh, shoot.</p> <p>23 Have I been sharing the whole time? I'm sorry.</p> <p>24 At some point Chief Dannels has a press conference.</p> <p>25 Right?</p>	<p>1 Leah's investigation or possessed an expertise that would</p> <p>2 assist us in reorganizing the investigation."</p> <p>3 Were you a member of the cold case team that he was</p> <p>4 referring to there?</p> <p>5 A. I would assume that they considered me part of</p> <p>6 that.</p> <p>7 Q. Okay. What work had you done on the case in the 15</p> <p>8 months prior to meeting with Vidocq?</p> <p>9 A. Not much of anything that I recall, other than</p> <p>10 being a resource.</p> <p>11 Q. What's your -- who else was on the cold case team</p> <p>12 for those 15 months?</p> <p>13 A. I think Larry Leader was involved on one or two</p> <p>14 meetings. Dale Oester, I believe, was retired at the time;</p> <p>15 might have been involved in a couple of the meetings. Tom</p> <p>16 Benz, a retired OSP sergeant, might have been in a few of those</p> <p>17 meetings. I don't think Pat was retired at the time, but he</p> <p>18 may have been. I don't remember.</p> <p>19 Q. How about Kris Karcher?</p> <p>20 A. Um ... She probably was.</p> <p>21 Q. How about Paul Frasier? Was he involved in those</p> <p>22 meetings?</p> <p>23 A. I -- I believe he was probably at some of them,</p> <p>24 yes.</p> <p>25 Q. Was -- do you recall if Larry Leader was at the</p>

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<p style="text-align: center;">DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY</p> <p>I, CRAIG S. ZANNI, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury that I have read the foregoing transcript of my deposition taken on December 17, 2021; that I have made such corrections as appear noted on the Deposition Errata Page, attached hereto, signed by me; that my testimony as contained herein, as corrected, is true and correct.</p> <p>Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____, at _____, _____.</p>  <hr style="width: 30%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">CRAIG S. ZANNI</p>	<p>STATE OF OREGON )                                 ) ss. C E R T I F I C A T E County of Douglas )</p> <p>I, JEAN M. KOSTNER, Certified Shorthand Reporter for the state of Oregon, do hereby certify that:</p> <p>Pursuant to stipulation of counsel for the respective parties, hereinbefore set forth, CRAIG S. ZANNI, appeared remotely before me via Zoom videoconference at the time and place set forth in the caption hereof;</p> <p>That, at said time and place, I reported in stenotype all testimony adduced and oral proceedings had in the foregoing matter, to the best of my ability;</p> <p>That, thereafter, my notes were reduced to typewriting, and that the foregoing transcript, pages 1 through 245 (VOLUMES I and II), both inclusive, constitutes a full, true, and correct transcript of all such testimony adduced and oral proceedings had and of the whole thereof.</p> <p>IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and CSR stamp this 4th day of January, 2022, in the City of Roseburg, County of Douglas, State of Oregon.</p> <div style="text-align: right;">   <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> </div> <p>JEAN M. KOSTNER Certified Court Reporter CSR No. 90-0051</p>																																				
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<p style="text-align: center;">DEPOSITION ERRATA SHEET</p> <table style="width: 100%;"> <tr><td>Page No. ____</td><td>Line No. ____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Reason for change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td>Page No. ____</td><td>Line No. ____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Reason for change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td>Page No. ____</td><td>Line No. ____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Reason for change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td>Page No. ____</td><td>Line No. ____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Reason for change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td>Page No. ____</td><td>Line No. ____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Reason for change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td>Page No. ____</td><td>Line No. ____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Change: _____</td></tr> <tr><td colspan="2">Reason for change: _____</td></tr> </table> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <span>CRAIG S. ZANNI</span> <span>Dated _____</span> </div>		Page No. ____	Line No. ____	Change: _____		Reason for change: _____		Page No. ____	Line No. ____	Change: _____		Reason for change: _____		Page No. ____	Line No. ____	Change: _____		Reason for change: _____		Page No. ____	Line No. ____	Change: _____		Reason for change: _____		Page No. ____	Line No. ____	Change: _____		Reason for change: _____		Page No. ____	Line No. ____	Change: _____		Reason for change: _____	
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